

Fall 9-1-2017

# School of Music Faculty Newsletter, September 2017

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# Illinois State University School of Music

Faculty/Staff Newsletter • September 2017 • Volume 7, No. 1

## Faculty Accomplishments and News (in alphabetical order):

**Ama Oforiwaa Aduonum** presented “Just Because *Black Lives Matter*: Sustaining Asafo Music and Performance” on June 26, 2017 at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Kwame Nkrumah Pan-African Intellectual and Cultural Conference at the University of Ghana. She also performed, “A Musical Invocation,” at the 25<sup>th</sup> Biennial Pan-African Festival at Cape Coast, Ghana on July 31, 2017. On August 11, 2017, she presented her paper, “We Are Dying: Should Sustainability of Asafo Performance be an Issue for the Black Lives Matter Movement?” at the 17<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the Arts Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA) at Legon, Ghana. She continued her research on the Music of Kormantse Bentsir Asafo Warrior Organization and Songs of Slaves in the Central Region of Ghana. She studied Asafo music and took voice lessons with a renowned Asafo singer, Kobena Bedu. She also helped to establish a library at Obokrom KG School. All presentations and service, among others, occurred during her 2016 - 2017 sabbatical in Ghana.



*Oforiwaa Aduonum in the classroom with Obokrom KG School students.*

## Upcoming SOM meetings:

- 9/5/17
  - Hist/Theory/Comp @ 11am
  - Music Ed @ 11am
  - Hearing Convo @ 11am
- 9/7/17
  - Curriculum @ 11am
- 9/12/17
  - SFSC @ 11am
- 9/19/17
  - Faculty @ 11am
- 9/21/17
  - Grad Advisory @ 11am
- 9/28/17
  - Curriculum @ 11am
- 10/3/17
  - Advisory @ 11am
- 10/5/17
  - Scholarship @ 11am





ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY • SCHOOL OF MUSIC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

**Allison Alcorn** led the School of Music's first study abroad program in May-June 2017. Eight students accompanied her to London, with trips to Oxford and Edinburgh. Students were able to have hands-on experiences with the musical instruments in the Bate Collection, including Handel's harpsichord and Haydn's fortepiano as well as the trumpet from Oliver Cromwell's house band. Among many other activities, they had a backstage tour of the Royal Opera House, studied the Music for Royal Fireworks right in Green Park where it premiered, attended Evensong at St. Paul's Cathedral, gave their own recital in Handel's house, had a private tour and discussion with the musical instrument curators at the Horniman Museum—and lived in a haunted Victorian townhouse next door to Stella McCartney and up the street from David Beckham and Jude Law. Upon returning to reality, Allison taught online, led a Faculty Fellows workshop for CTLT, attended the annual meetings of the American Musical Instrument Society to which she has recently been elected to the Board of Governors, and submitted a chapter discussing online discussion forums for the forthcoming book, *Pedagogy Development for Teaching Online Music* (IGI Global Press, 2018). She served as moderator for a new faculty workshop geared to new ISU faculty with significant teaching experiences prior to ISU, and is also completing work on her final volume as Editor of the *Journal of the American Musical Instrument Society*.



*Allison Alcorn with study abroad students at Kensington Palace.*

**Glenn Block**, Director of Orchestras and Professor of Conducting, spent the summer in Argentina in a variety of activities guest conducting with four different orchestras in four different cities in four weeks. He returned to Salta to guest-conduct the Orquesta Sinfonica de Salta in

northwestern Argentina, was invited to conduct the National Youth Orchestra of Argentina in Buenos Aires, and returned to Chascomus to guest-conduct the Orquesta Filharmonica of Chascomus and teach in their El Sistema orchestra programs. Finally, he returned to Buenos Aires and the Teatro Colon to direct an international conducting seminar with experienced conductors from throughout South America and Europe. Dr. Block will be returning to Buenos Aires for the month of November to guest-conduct at the Teatro Colon. New graduate conducting assistant **Nicolas Kapustiansky**, Resident Conductor of the Teatro Colon Academic Orquesta for the past six years, will be returning to Buenos Aires for the final two weeks of September to guest-conduct at the Teatro Colon. The ISU Symphony Orchestra is preparing for its first concert of the season on September 25, featuring the Dvorak Symphony No. 7 in d minor, the Carl Reinecke flute concerto with faculty member **Kimberly Risinger** as soloist, and the world premiere of "Tidal Rhythms" by composition faculty **Martha Horst**.

**David Collier** continued to be active throughout the summer. On June 13-14, David performed with Illinois Symphony Orchestra percussionists Jeremy Brunk and Joe Palomento in "Around the Town" concerts in Springfield and Bloomington. David was again Coordinator of the Percussion Immersion Track at the Music for All Summer Symposium June 25- July 1 at Ball State University. In addition, he performed with the Tom Becker Quartet throughout the summer. For a total change of pace, David is the percussionist on the new CD, "The Morbid Tango," by progressive rock group Cosmosquad. In a review by Progressive Music Planet, Cosmosquad "... provides a refreshingly diverse instrumental record that is as varied as it is well executed and passionately performed."

**Geoffrey Duce** and **Justin Vickers** performed in May at the Library of Congress in "Johnnies, Tommies, and Sammies: Music and the World War I Alliance" on the American Musicological Society-Library of Congress Lecture Series, joining colleagues Christina Bashford (UIUC), Gayle Magee (UIUC), Laurie Matheson (University of Illinois Press), and William Brooks (York University, UK). The project explored the contributions of popular and art songs to the "Allied" cultural identity, and examined the distinct contributions of the United States, Canada and Britain. In June, Geoffrey traveled to Bogotá, Colombia, where he gave a piano masterclass under the auspices of the Orquesta

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY • SCHOOL OF MUSIC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Filarmónica de Bogotá. He finished the summer with a performance of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 in Edinburgh, U.K., with the Orchestra of the Canongait.



*Justin Vickers and Geoffrey Duce at the Library of Congress.*

**Tom Faux** spent the month of June in northern Peru with the Fiestas family, renowned string players and composers from the town of Piura, on the equator, near the Ecuador border. Tom has known violinist Juan Fiestas and played his family's music for over 35 years, and was delighted to finally meet his father, José Fiestas, and brother, Silverio. Juan and Tom brought many of their unpublished dance compositions back to the US—mostly hand-written on home-made manuscript—and are currently editing them into publishable form. Stay tuned, musical colleagues! While in Piura, Tom was honored with an invitation to give a talk to students and musicology faculty at the Piura Conservatory on cross-cultural music study, and began work on an exchange program that will bring four young Peruvian musicians to Illinois, to study for two weeks at the Community Center for the Arts, a community music school in Urbana. The icing on the cake was a trip to Machu Picchu, the stunning Inca city in the high Andes. Peru is a place where humanity has truly

flourished in spite of tremendous difficulty. The landscape is mind-blowing, the history is heartbreaking and nearly unbelievable, and the level of musicality everywhere is powerful and enchanting.

**Tim Fredstrom** was assistant conductor of the Peoria Bach Festival in June. He conducted cantata 79, *Gott der Herr ist Sonn und Schild*, and cantata 38, *Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir*. He also sang in the chorus for cantata 80, *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott*.



*Aaron Church (senior choral education major), Leslie Manfredo (retired SOM faculty), and Tim Fredstrom following the performance of Bach Cantata 79 at the Peoria Bach Festival.*

**Amy Gilreath** directed the 10<sup>th</sup> Orvieto Musica (OM) Trumpet Fest this past June in Orvieto, Italy. During the week, she conducted the Orvieto Musica Trumpet Ensemble, gave master classes, and performed as a soloist on the OM Faculty Recital. Marking the 10th Trumpet Fest, Amy was presented a plaque by the OM Board of Directors thanking her for bring over 100 students from 13 different U.S. Universities in those ten years. This year's participants included former Illinois State University Trumpet Alums, students from North Park University, and Indiana University at Pennsylvania. In July, Amy traveled with Stiletto Brass to Aguascalientes, Mexico as guest artists for the Festival de Musica de Camera de Aguascalientes. Stiletto Brass was the first brass quintet to ever be invited to this festival. The quintet performed a concert to a packed concert hall and gave a masterclass to the festival participants.



# ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY • SCHOOL OF MUSIC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

**Kevin Hart** and his various configurations kept busy over the summer with performances at Connie Link Amphitheater, Medici Craft Beer and Jazz Street Fair, Baxter's American Grille in Bloomington & Champaign, the Iron Post in Urbana, and other events in Central Illinois.



*Kevin Hart, Tom Marko, and friends.*

**Phillip Hash**, Coordinator of Music Education, served as chair of the Oklahoma City Symposium on the History of Music Education, held from May 31-June 3, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The conference featured numerous historical studies and panel discussions related to music teaching and learning throughout the world. Dr. Hash also published an article titled "Development and Validation of a Music Self-Concept Inventory for College Students" in the July 2017 issue of the *Journal of Research in Music Education*.

**Martha Horst's** *Tutta Forza* for large mixed ensemble was premiered in Iowa by the Durward Ensemble on August 24 and 26, 2017.

**Kate Lewis** reports that the Normal Viola Collective had a fun and productive summer under her direction. The group met weekly and performed a successful recital of solo and viola ensemble works at Westminster Village at the end of July.



*Members of the Normal Viola Collective.*

New this summer was the addition of 'junior' members who performed alongside ISU students, alumni, and other local violists.

**Joseph Matson** spent June 2017 in Florence, Italy, leading a

study abroad program for Millikin University. Students in the program studied the Florentine Renaissance from multiple and intersection disciplines, including art history, music history, the culinary arts, literature, and social history.

**Daniel Schuetz** sang the works of Handel and Schubert with **Karyl Carlson** on the July 2017 Concerts on the Quad. In August, Daniel played the role of Ciccio in Prairie Fire Theatre's "Most Happy Fella!" Daniel also gave a recital on August 27, titled "La Giuditta and other selections," assisted by Patty Foltz, **David Gresham**, **Kim Risinger**, **Judith Dicker**, **Adriana Ransom**, and students **Yangyang Tai**, **Katherine Cosenza**, **Kelsey Klopfenstein**, and **Alicia Gummess**. Alumnus **Yichen Li** also performed.

**David Snyder** taught two different junior high band camps this summer; one for Unit 5 in June and also the ISU camp in July. He also had the opportunity to teach a music appreciation class for Lincoln College at their Ogelsby campus in August. David is happy to report that he advised the largest incoming class of graduate music education students in the past 22 years. Ten new graduate students were advised this summer, as well as two additional late enrollees into the online Master of Music Education degree.

**Rick Valentin** and **Rose Marshack** were busy at Electrical Audio recording studio in Chicago this summer completing an album with famed recording engineer Steve Albini, who has also worked with artists such as Robert Plant and Jimmy Page, Nirvana, and PJ. Harvey. Rick and Steve have just finished mixing. The album will be released next spring on Lotuspool Records.

**Justin Vickers** spent six weeks in England from May through July, primarily in Benjamin Britten's Aldeburgh. He was guest artist of the Britten-Pears Foundation's 2017 exhibition commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the 1967 partial decriminalization of homosexuality. Justin performed the world premiere of the gay American composer Zachary Wadsworth's song cycle "Secret Songs"—which Justin commissioned from Wadsworth for the exhibition. Vickers performed the cycle with pianist **Karyl Carlson**, alongside the British premiere of John David Earnest's "Songs of Hadrian," and Britten's "Seven Sonnets of Michelangelo," the latter performed with ISU alumnus **Felipe Rodrigues** (MM, 16). Vickers contributed the essay "The Indecency of the Closet" to the BPF's exhibition book, "Queer Talk," discussing the socio-sexual

# ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY • SCHOOL OF MUSIC FACULTY NEWSLETTER

nuances and public avowals represented by early premiers between Britten and his spouse, the tenor Peter Pears in pre-1967 Great Britain when their relationship was illegal. Justin was fortunate to enjoy the publication of his book *Benjamin Britten Studies: Essays on An Inexplicit Art* (Boydell Press, 2017) during the Aldeburgh Festival and specifically at a champagne launch party in the gardens of Britten's home, The Red House. This year, Vickers is humbled to be serving as Class Facilitator for the 2018 Multicultural Leadership Program (MCLP) in Bloomington-Normal after having been selected to give the MCLP Inspirational Speech at the Class of 2017 Graduation at the Brown Ballroom in April.



*Justin Vickers and Karyl Carlson in Benjamin Britten's Music Room.*

## News, Announcements, and Reminders

### Safety Reminders

Remember to lock your office door when working outside of regular business hours. If you need an escort at night, call [Redbird Safe Walk](#) at 438-8631.

### Piano Humidification Control

Please keep piano humidification units plugged in at all times. If you need to unplug for any reason, please plug them back in before you leave the room.

### Problems With Our Facilities?

If you have any facilities problems in Cook Hall, please contact [Tim Schachtschneider](#). For problems in any of our other spaces, please contact [Mona Hubbard](#). To call in emergencies after hours or on weekends, dial 438-5656.

## Upcoming Events and the University Calendar!

*All events scheduled through Peggy DeHaven in CE 225 will be listed on the [University Calendar](#). Please check your events for accuracy and let Peggy know if corrections need to be made. If your event does not yet have a description included, send text to Peggy so that she may add it to your event announcement.*



## Upcoming Concerts, Important Dates

- 9/5 Hearing Convocation @ 11am, KRH
- 9/13 Derek Brown @ 7:30pm, KRH
- 9/17 R. Cordero Celebration @ 4pm, KRH
- 9/20 Wind Symphony @ 8pm, CPA
- 9/24 Symphony Orchestra @ 7pm, CPA
- 9/25 Bill Koehler @ 8pm, KRH
- 9/28 Jazz Ensembles I & II @ 8pm, CPA
- 9/30 Transfer Audition Day @ 9am, CH
- 10/1 Brass Day @ 10am, CH
- 10/1 Choral Showcase @ 3pm, CPA
- 10/5 Sym Band/UBand @ 8pm, CPA
- 10/8 Symphonic Winds @ 3pm, CPA
- 10/9 Chamber Winds @ 7:30pm
- 10/10 Ted Clark Convocation @ 11am, CPA
- 10/14 Band Day @ All Day, Hancock
- 10/17 Faculty Brass Quintet @ 8pm, CPA
- 10/18 Faculty Jazz @ 8pm, KRH
- 10/22 Baroque Masters @ 1pm, KRH
- 10/22 Wind Symphony @ 3pm, CPA
- 10/23 Chamber Singers @ 7pm, KRH
- 10/24 David Gresham @ 7:30pm, KRH
- 10/29 Viola Day Recital @ 3pm, KRH
- 10/30 Guitar Ensemble @ 7:30pm, KRH
- 10/31 Performance Convocation @ 11am, CPA
- 11/1 Lauren Hunt/Tuyen Tonnu @ 7:30pm, KRH